GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:194
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2000
SECURITY OF INDIAN AIRLINES AT KATHMANDU
SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a)Whether the Government are aware about the vulnerability of Kathmandu on the international air map, that Kathmandu is a heaven for terrorists; and

(b)if so, the steps taken for the security of Indian flights to and from Kathmandu?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION
(SHRI SHARAD YADAV)

(a) & (b): The need for enhanced security and immigration controls at the Tribhuvan International Airport in Kathmandu has been discussed by the Government of India with the Government of Nepal on several occasions. The Government of India is aware of the possibility of anti-India terrorist element from third countries entering Nepal through the Tribhuvan International Airport and the Nepalese Government has been sensitised on this issue. The Government of Nepal has assured the Government of Indiathat they are taking steps to enhance security at the Tribhuvan International Airport on a priority basis. Security measures required by Indian Airlines at the Tribhuvan International Airport are also under discussion.
HMGN was also requested a number of times to grant permission to Indian Airlines to post its own Security Officer and to have ladder point frisking at Tribhuvan International Airport. The proposal was not accepted by the Nepalese Government stating that thesecurity of flights, including Indian Airlines and the entire operational area, was the exclusive responsibility of HMGN.